

A Publication of News and Events

Maintaining "Old Trappe" is a responsibility that every citizen-not just the commissioners-must take on with everything we've got. It will be all of our burdens to keep our town together, united, and a great place to live. Citizens need to stay involved in the community, involved in the East side project, and focused on the whole town.

Cheryl Lewis, Town Council President

It is entirely reasonable for citizens and elected officials to expect that developers will comply with the collective best interests of the community. Likewise, any developer who hopes for success should be willing to do so.

Philip W. Hoon, Esq., land use attorney, "Development of the Eastern Shore", *Delmarva Quarterly* (Spring 2003).

We want to keep the small town appearance and style. Conservation, recreation, and creating a desirable environment for residents are essential components of this project.

Bob Rauch, Rocks & Rauch Engineering, presentation of concept plan for East Annexation area, January Town Meeting

It's better than putting Joedy in the kissing booth!

Drake Ferguson (in response to Town Clerk, Joedy Cecil's announcement that February's Town Meal will be chili because it's easier to prepare than spaghetti).

Rocks Engineering Presents Preliminary Application to Town Council



Rocks Engineering presented their Preliminary Application at the January Town Mtg.



A Joint Effort: Citizens, Town Planner - Frank Hall, Star Democrat Reporter - Chris Williams, Town Attorney - Brynja Booth and Casey Rauch of Rauch Engineering.



Commissioners Niemeyer, Fegel, Adams, Harrison & Lewis listen as Bob Rauch presents Rocks and Rauch's preliminary application for Trappe East to the Town Council.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If the Town Council finds that this Preliminary Application is generally consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the standards of the requested floating zone district, the Preliminary Application shall be conditionally approved and referred to the Planning commission for review. Conditionally approved means the Council has made a preliminary finding that the proposal is generally consistent with the Comp Plan and Zoning Ordinance, it authorizes the Planning Commission, Town Staff and Consultants to continue to analyze the proposal subject to all applicable review processes and procedures.

Development of the property still requires:

- ✓ Planning Commission review and recommendations
- ✓ Legislative action by the Town Council
- ✓ Approval of a PUD (Planned Unit Development) Plan for the floating zone
- ✓ Final subdivision plan and/or site plan approval by all agencies with jurisdiction
- ✓ Building permit

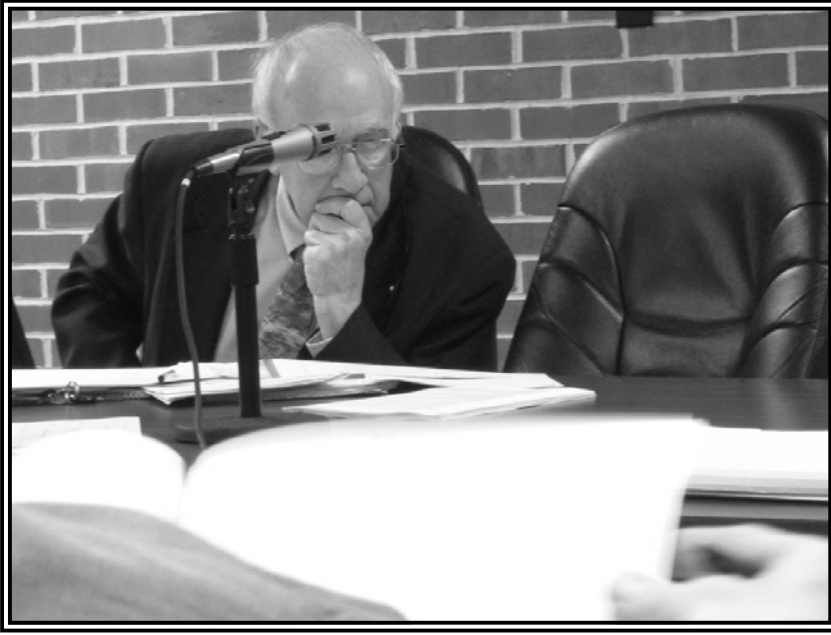
There will be one or more public hearings prior to the Town Council taking any legislative action.



Meet your Town Commissioners...

Edgar Harrison

By: Ann Dorbin



Edgar Harrison reviews a Planning Commission proposal.

are not necessarily highly effectual. He has carried that lesson with him over the years, and today still strives to be a results-oriented person. When he returned to the States, he fulfilled an ambition to be a State trooper. When his father died, Edgar was appointed as his replacement on the Town Council, and has since served in many capacities over the years. After retiring from the State, he held a full time supervisory job with the National Guard, before retiring (again). He now works part time as a court bailiff.

Over the years, Edgar has seen many changes in town, and does not view all change as a negative. Of the planned east-side annexation project, he says, "Sure, it will bring change. But we've already experienced some changes for the worse—in the loss of community and the transformation of downtown from a commercial district to a residential rental area. As a kid, I had a place to go for an ice cream cone. So did my children, but they only had one place to go; and now my grandchild has no place to go."

Edgar's personal experiences of the past allow him to take a broad view of the town's future. "Does growth have risks and dangers?" he asks. "You bet it does. But it's also an opportunity. And quite frankly, if it comes down to the choice between fear and opportunity, I'm going to grab for opportunity."

Edgar views future growth, not as just a suburban development, but as "an opportunity to create a very nice Eastern Shore *rural* community, keep a small town character, and restore a *town*. You can see how much community spirit there is in Trappe today, in spite of the fact that there is no community center. I think that's remarkable. Sure, things are going to change. Obviously if you bring in three times the number of people that we have now, the new people are going to influence the town. But so what? They already do! The 1,000 people that live here now control the politics of the town compared to the 300 people that lived here when I was younger. But what's wrong with that? Once they get here, they're Trappe residents. They are not 'them' anymore; they're 'us.' That's just reality. If we have a decent community, then everyone will have a sense of belonging."

This open-arms approach is central to Edgar's outlook. "I'm one of the only ones left that was born in the Town of Trappe," he says. "But the way I look at it, somebody who moves here from the outside is a potential friend that I just haven't met yet. Once you move to Trappe, you're a Trappe resident; no different from anybody else. My opinion is, 'I'm glad you came.' The fact that I have lived here all my life doesn't give me any special privileges or wisdom. Everybody has had a lifetime of experiences. They're all useful. Again, it all goes back to results. What have you got to contribute? 'Hey, bring it in!'"

Although Trappe meetings are occasionally crowded and controversial, most of our local politician's work is done reviewing reams of documents and hammering out tedious details in much less dramatic settings. Edgar believes that the careful planning and diligence to detail done in these gatherings will help revive the town he loves so well and benefit residents, new and old. "The people on our Planning Commission and Town Council have battled this thing through, fought back and forth among ourselves, and done a lot of homework; we understand the process very well. I want to see the process through. I've got a lifetime invested here," he concludes, "and I feel very strongly about this town. The whole idea behind our vision for the town is to restore it to a place where people don't just go to sleep and then drive somewhere else to work. But rather a place that is connected, where people congregate, that has some stores you can get to without having to drive the highway, that has parks, and is still close to wildlife, stream corridors, and the surrounding fields and beauty of Talbot County. That's the goal: to restore Trappe to something similar to what it was when I grew up. And that to me would be a lifetime achievement I would be proud to be associated with."

The Index is now available online, along with lots of other local info. Visit the town Web site: www.trappemd.net Logon today!!

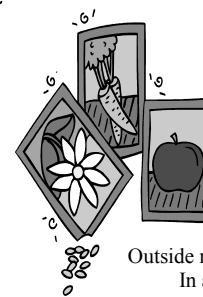
The Index is a publication of the Trappe Town Council. We welcome contributions and short articles that are of general interest to the community. Events reported in *The Index* do not necessarily reflect the endorsement of the Town Commissioners. The Commissioners reserve the right to edit or reject any item submitted.

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100 Things to Love About Trappe

(Here are the latest, please send in your own until we reach 100)

26. Scenes like this: Don English (current Planning Commission Member and former Town Council President) rolling up his sleeves and pitching in to help the Town Office administrative staff process & bulk-mail 1,500 newsletters on short notice
27. Magnolia trees in bloom
28. People look out for each other
29. You can drink the tap water, and it tastes good (unlike many other places, even large cities)
30. Seeing people line the sidewalks for parades
31. Watching biking clubs peddle through town
32. The memory of Mr. & Mrs. Rumsey Seymour riding their bicycles together
33. Edgar Harrison (Town Commissioner & Planning Committee Chairman) riding his bike around town
34. Frank Hall (Town Planner) walking around town to meet residents and get a feel for the town
35. St. Paul's Preschool (my granddaughter goes there and just loves it!)
36. All of the joys of Talbot County life (minus the tourists)
37. At least the "reach the beach" traffic passes through and doesn't stop here
38. Tractors riding down Main Street at planting time
39. Combines working the fields, kicking up dust on a summer night from sunset to dark
40. The school bus drivers, you're the greatest! Special thanks to Mrs. Barbara Wilson, who treats every child like her own
41. Saint Sonny (Diefenderfer)
42. Familiar trucks at Pop's Market early every morning
43. Never knowing what you will find on your front steps. I find fresh produce often.
44. Episcopal Church bells ringing (we miss them!)
45. Lions Club barbeques
46. In days gone by...Adams Family Estate, Reunions and Family Pool open to the public
47. Community Suppers (People in Trappe love to eat!)
48. Seeing the Frank Baker home when walking through town
49. Hearing and seeing geese in the fields; knowing winter is on its way
50. The corners at Main Street intersections
51. Dogs waiting in vehicles at the Post Office & riding in the back of pickup trucks



Ode to a Seed Catalog

Outside my garden's sleeping
In a frozen slumberland
Inside I'm warmly snuggling
At my feet a dozing dog
His dreams are spurred by snoring
Mine, by a seed catalog

Celebrate "Fat Tuesday" in Style ~Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Tuesday, February 24,

~ 5:00 TO 7:00 ~

Adults \$5 Children \$2

(what a bargain!)

Pancakes, Syrup, Sausage, Bacon, Applesauce & More

Takeout Available



Brought to you by

St. Paul's Men's Group, cooked up on

St. Paul's two new electric stoves!!!

Come on out and bring your appetite.



Barbara Brooks,
WMES Intern

The Guidance Department at White Marsh Elementary will be offering a program for students who are dealing with issues related to their parents' separation/divorce beginning in February. This support group will meet once a week during the school day for approximately 6 weeks and will be lead by Mrs. Barbara Brooks. Mrs. Brooks is currently a student counselor intern at White Marsh Elementary as she finishes her Masters Degree in School Counseling at Wilmington College.

The group will provide basic information about separation/divorce, let participants know that they are not alone, help identify and understand their feelings, and help them better cope with their daily lives. Mrs. Brooks will also "draw" on her art education by using drawing as a form of expression. Each child will receive their own drawing book, such as the one shown here, that they will use during the program and then take home with them.

Mrs. Brooks is the mother of three children, ages 14, 18 and 21. "I think my real life experience with raising my children adds valuable insight to my work," she says. "The people at White Marsh genuinely care about the children here. I am loving it!"

For more information, please call Mrs. Brooks or Mrs. Lucas at 410.476.3144

Scott's United Methodist Church ~ Soup & fellowship ~ Every Friday night from 5-7 p.m. "Absolutely Free"



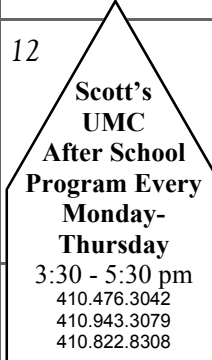

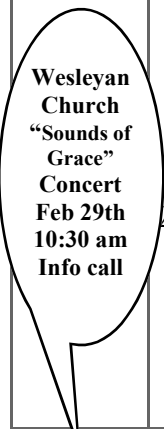


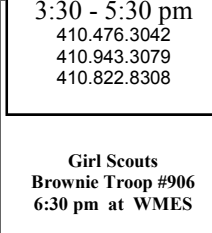

If you would like to volunteer to work in the soup kitchen or if you would like to donate items for the preparation of soup, please contact. Violece Brown at 410.476.3980 ~ Sponsored by the United Methodist Women



Happy
Leap
Year!!



February 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 WMES Book Fair Mon 8:30am-3:30pm Tue 8:30am-5:30pm Wed 8:30am-2:00pm Ground Hog Day	3 MDE Public Hearing On Wastewater Facility Plan for East Annexa- tion Area 6 PM at Trappe Fire Hall EHS Band Booster Mtg 7 pm EHS	4 Town Council Mtg 6:45pm Public Hearing 7:30pm Town Hall WMES PTO Mtg 7 pm SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart SUMC - 1:30 pm Bible Study SUMC - 7 pm Bible Study	5 TCPS Early Dismissal Parent Conferences Girl Scouts Brownie Troop #906 6:30 pm at WMES	6 Scott's UMC Free Soup Night Every Friday Night 5 pm WMES PTO Parents Drop In 7:30am - 9:30am Seven Sisters Quilting Guild 7PM @ Trappe Fire Hall	7  7:30 - 10:00 am Country Church Breakfast Trappe UMC Baseball Registration See bottom of this page
8 Baseball Registration Feb 7th & 8th At New Ball Park... See bottom of this page	9 TCPS Rally to Annapolis Bus Trip Rescheduled Feb 9th Call 410-822-4510 for more info	10 Trappe Fire Department Monthly Meeting 7PM Cadet Girl Scout Troup 289 4PM at WMES	11 Planning Commission Workshop 7:30 PM Town Hall SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart SUMC - 1:30 pm Bible Study SUMC - 7 pm Bible Study	12  Scott's UMC After School Program Every Monday- Thursday 3:30 - 5:30 pm 410.476.3042 410.943.3079 410.822.8308 Girl Scouts Brownie Troop #906 6:30 pm at WMES	13 Scott's UMC Free Soup Night Every Friday Night 5 pm	14  Happy Valentine's Day
15  Wesleyan Church "Sounds of Grace" Concert Feb 29th 10:30 am Info call	16  President's Day Town Office Public Schools Closed	17  St. Paul's Church Preschool Open House 9:00 am - 11:00 am & 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	18 Planning Commission Mtg 7:30 PM Town Hall Speaker Rep Wayne Gilchrist Sun Trust Bldg, Easton 7pm - 9pm SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart SUMC - 1:30 pm Bible Study SUMC - 7 pm Bible Study	20  Town Dinner Chili & Sausage UMC 5:30 PM Seven Sisters Quilting Guild 7PM @ Trappe Fire Hall	21  7:30 - 10:00 am Country Church Breakfast Trappe UMC	
23 Feb 25 - Mar 4 Maryland State Assessments, Grades 3, 4 & 5 To bed early & a good breakfast!	24 Cadet Girl Scout Troup 289 4PM at WMES St. Paul's Church Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	25 Planning Commission Workshop 7:30 PM Town Hall TCPS Board Meeting EHS 7 PM SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart SUMC - 1:30 pm Bible Study SUMC - 7 pm Bible Study	26 Pick up the Mar/Apr Issue of Chesapeake Life Magazine to read a fea- ture story about female architects in Talbot, writ- ten by Index writer Ann Dorbin, w/ photos by Richard Dorbin. Includ- ing an article on Easton.	27 Scott's UMC Free Soup Night 5 pm	28	
29	Please submit Calendar Events and News Items to the Town Office or call Ann Dorbin at 410-476-3910 or email tin-man@friend.ly.net NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE is February 20, 2004					

Mid-Shore League of Republican Women Presents

Speaker, Representative Wayne Gilchrist

February 18, 2004 ~ 7-9 pm ~

The Maryland Room ~SunTrust Building ~ Easton

The Mid-Shore League of Republican Women is affiliated with the Maryland Federation of Republican Women as well as the National Federation of Women. The club meets monthly and all are welcome. Please call Lura Damron 410.770.4818 if you have questions.



Girls and boys tee ball, softball, farm league, little league, junior league and senior league. Come one, come all to the Trappe District Baseball and Softball Signups. Get your free ticket for a \$50.00 cash door prize.

Registration is at the New Homerun

Baker Park Concession Stand on Saturday, February 7th 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 8th

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Don't be shy. Get involved in America's greatest pastime! The Trappe District Baseball and softball teams need you to help fill our rosters.

Any Questions? Call Paul Galanek at 410.476.4492.

Town Dinner

sponsored by

TRAPPE TOWN EMPLOYEES

February 20th @ 5:30 pm

Trappe United Methodist Church

Dinner \$6.00

Hotdog Happy Meal \$3.00



Chili Sausage
Hotdogs Baked Beans
Cornbread & fun...



Friends of Homerun Baker Park Sponsors Official Kick-off of Trappe Town Suppers in 2004

With 3 Town Favorites: Food, Flea Market & Fun

"People in Trappe do love to eat!!" (Frank Hall, Town Planner)



Pictured (left to right): John Farwell sells remembrance bricks (yard sale items in background); Nancy Dunn, Community Outreach Dinner Coordinator & Meatloaf Dinner Chairperson; Elizabeth & Drake Ferguson; Amy Lester & April Byrnes; Bill Lester, Chief Cook & Bottlewasher; David and Debbie Baynard (WMES School Secretary), residents of outlying Trappe District; Janis (Friends of Homerun Baker) and Bill Lester; Town Councilmen Don English and Norm Fegel; Town Clerk, Joedy Cecil and town resident, Clarence Parrott

How many Trappe citizens does it take to change a lightbulb? Well, that depends . . . And how many meatloaves does it take to feed the town of Trappe? Fifteen! Plus plentiful pounds of potatoes, great gobs of green beans, bountiful batches of biscuits, and stockpots of steaming stewed tomatoes. On January 16th, more than 100 people turned out to prepare and feast upon good old fashioned home cooking. Friends of Homerun Baker Park raised \$550. Many thanks to everyone who donated time, food, and trimmings. Thanks also to all who showed their support by chowing down (now there's any easy way to contribute to the community!!).

Seven Sisters Quilting Guild

raised \$101 serving up tasty desserts. These funds will contribute to their annual quilt donation to the Family Fund Days Raffle, Sponsored by Friends of Homerun Baker Park this summer.



Earleen Foster, Chris Routzahn, Loe Diefenderfer, Patti Kaver DeWitt



Agricultural Scholarships Available

The Delmarva Farmer newspaper is offering three \$1,000 scholarships, one from each state of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. Applicants must come from a farming family and be graduating high school seniors, current college students or graduate students. Those employed in an ag-related field and those who are dependents of employees of agribusiness and ag agencies are also eligible. For more information and application is available online at www.americanfarm.com or by contacting Kiley Slagle at The Delmarva Farmer 410.822.3965.

Letters to the Editor

I just loved reading The Index. What a great idea! I have lived in Trappe my entire life and love the area.
Sandie Ingersoll, Koogler Road

I was excited to get The Index - what a great publication for our community!
Lura Damron, Southside Lane

It's wonderful to have a regular, monthly newsletter. Soon the water bill will be incidental to The Index!
Rev. Roger Tilden, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Support Talbot County Girl Scouts. Cadet Troop & Brownie Troop #906 are selling Girl Scout Cookies, for delivery February 7th-Feb. 15th. Door to door sales will also be available via "Cookie Tailgate" deliveries. Cookies may be ordered by calling Jean Sard at 410.476.3301 or Barbara Coleman at 410.476.3128





Open House ~ ST. PAUL'S PRESCHOOL ~ February 17, 2004

Trappe now has a state approved preschool. St. Paul's opened its doors in September 2002 to three and four year olds and we are happy to say that our program has grown in just these two years of operation. We look forward to growing even more in the coming years.

Our mission is to make it easier for parents in the Trappe area to find a warm and welcoming learning experience for their young children.

"We want families in our community to have a local option for preschool," says St. Paul's rector, Roger Tilden. "Parents should not have to drive to Easton to take a child to a preschool program that only lasts a few hours, and St. Paul's vestry realized that we have resources and facilities to offer a high quality program."

The children enjoy mornings of fun and learning that include age-appropriate themes in music, science and show 'n tells. The preschool is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 11:45. At this time they have open enrollment until all spots are filled.

The open house for September 2004 pre-registration will be on February 17th from 9-11 a.m. and 6-7 p.m. For more information call Lori Hemming at 410.476.4465 or the church at 410.476.3048.

The Trappe Volunteer Fire Department needs volunteers of all kinds. And you don't even have to fight fires to help out. Associate members are also needed to help with fund raisers and other support activities. To learn more, please call Angie Assmussen at 410.476.3063

HELP NEEDED!!



Kids on Love

When you fall in love, I think you are supposed to be shot by an arrow or something, but the rest of it isn't supposed to be so painful. *Manuel, age 8*

If falling love is anything like learning how to spell, I don't want to do it. It takes too long. *Glen, age 7*

One of you should know how to write a check. Because, even if you have tons of love, there is still going to be a lot of bills. *Rya, age 8*



Puppy Love

by Ann Dorbin

A few days ago, my neighbor made a difficult decision. For many months, they had tried their best to provide a good home for their dog, a beautiful young Dalmatian full of energy and curiosity about the big world. Unfortunately, the pup did not get to see much of the outside world. His owners lives, too, are full of vitality and busy-ness, which often left little time to devote to their loveable and lively puppy. Pets, too, need our love and attention. Finally, after weeks of agonizing, it was sorely decided to put the dog up for adoption. My neighbor delivered him to the Humane Society with strict instructions to be notified if the dog could not be placed in a satisfactory home. The next day, six people spotted the spotted pooch and left applications! He now has a new home and a new Dalmatian friend to share it with. We're told that Dalmatians are happier when they have each other. So, as they say, sometimes the best way to love someone—including "man's best friend"—is to let them go, no matter how much it may hurt . . .

Information from the Town Clerk: The Town Office will be closed for **President's Day** on Feb 16th. ★ **Trappe POTTERY** is available for immediate purchase at the Town Office ★ Don't forget to shovel your sidewalk within 24 hours after a snowfall, safety is important.

Trappe Welcomes New Postmaster, Daphne Garner

Daphne Garner became Trappe's new Postmaster in November 2003, just in time for the busiest mailing months of the year. Christmas and Valentine's Day are the most popular greeting-card holidays, representing 60% and 25% of cards mailed each year. Approximately one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year. Luckily for Daphne, only a small portion of those pass through 21673.

Daphne was born in Salisbury and recently returned to the Eastern Shore to be close to her mother. Daphne now lives in Cambridge, but plans to move to Trappe someday soon. She has worked for the Postal Service since 1984 in several locations, including Hampton, Virginia, Chestertown, and Easton. Before her career with USPS, she served 3 ½ years in the Marines, working in auto mechanics and finance. She has four grown children (including an adopted foster daughter) and an 18-month old granddaughter. A grandson is expected to be born in mid-February to Daphne's oldest daughter (who hopes for a Valentine's Day birthday).

Daphne admits that her first month in her new position was a challenge because of heavy holiday mail volume and trying to get to know her new customers. "I realize and respect that this is a small community," she says. "But I ask one thing of the Trappe community. According to postal regulations, you must have your key in order to retrieve your mail. Please don't be offended when I ask you to use your key. I understand that sometimes people forget, but for me to do my job, which is to protect and safeguard the mail, I just ask you to be a little patient with me until I learn who you are. Now that things are slowing down a little bit, I love it! The community is just wonderful. I have 14 years until retirement and I plan to stay right here until then."

